

EAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

3144 DAVENPORT AVENUE, SUITE 200, SAGINAW, MI. 48602
PHONE: 989-797-0800, FAX: 989-797-0896
WWW.EMCOG.ORG



MINUTES OF THE EMCOG REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TEAM Approved September 9, 2016

Meeting Date: Friday, July 8, 2016

Meeting Time: **11:45 A.M.**

Location: Iosco Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA), Kirtland Classroom

Address: 27 N. Rempert Rd. | Tawas City, MI 48763

Attendees:

RED Team Brenda Bachelder, Mandi Chasey, Zygy Dworzecki, Christine Greve, Gary Kellan, Pat Killingbeck, Adam Kroczaleski. Kathy Methner, Bill Mrdeza, Jay O'Farrell, Erik Rodriquez, Gary Stefanko

EMCOG: Dave Engelhardt, Bill Ernat, Jane Fitzpatrick

Guests: Blinda Baker, City of East Tawas; Doreen Dewald, Isoco County; Wanda Dziwurka, USDA Rural Development; Jacob Hilliker, Congressional Liaison for Congressman Dan Kildee; Katy Hintzen, Mi Sea Grant, MSU Extension; Patty O'Donnel, MDOT North Region; Dina Schmidt, Iosco County RESA; Brian Smith, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe; Vicky Sherry, Tuscola County EDC

1. Call to order, welcome and introductions

The RED Team meeting was called to order at 12:08 p.m. by Chair Kathy Methner. Attendees introduced themselves.

2. Review and Approval of Agenda

The proposed agenda was approved.

3. Review and Approval of May 6, 2016 RED Team Minutes

Moved by Zygy Dworzecki to approved the draft minutes; supported by Bill Mrdeza. Motion carried.

4. Chairperson Updates: Kathy Methner

Comments were deferred to agenda item 8.

5. Updates from EMCOG:

5.a. EDA Review of CEDS : Jane Fitzpatrick

There is no update on the status of the EDA review of the EMCOG January 31, 2016 CEDS since the May 6th report to the RED Team.

5.b. Target Market Analysis (MSHDA Grant): Jane Fitzpatrick

Results of the model have been printed and assembled for each county, and Sharon Woods is available to quote preliminary results over the phone if you need numbers right away. However, she has postponed releasing the data tables until more of the work has been completed. Jane just received rough drafts of data tables, maps, etc. to look over. The summary narratives have not been written yet but should be provided to EMCOG in August. EMCOG will be seeking locations and hosts for the study group meetings at 2-3 locations throughout the PR-5 region. Planning for these will commence at around 6 weeks prior to the events with invitations to be sent out by the hosts 3 weeks in advance. To discuss the preliminary TMA results for your community or to share information, please call Sharon Woods (the consultant) directly at (517)-290-5531.

5.c. Transit Mobility: Dave Engelhardt

Dave Engelhardt and Jane Fitzpatrick sent in their final comments to MDOT and the consultants on the proposed plan. A revised final plan should be coming out in a week or two. Once EMCOG receives it there will be a follow-up meeting with transit providers and other stakeholders to measure the “will” to move forward with the strategy.

5.d. Saginaw Bay Watershed Coastal Storms Project (MI Sea Grant): Jane Fitzpatrick

Jane deferred to Katy Hintzen for an update. Planning is wrapping up for the upcoming event on the 30th anniversary of the 1986 flood in this region. She and the steering committee are working on some outreach and public education events to illustrate the impact of the flood, what has changed since then and what steps can be taken to reduce the impacts of such a storm event. There will be an interactive map where you can submit stories of your experiences, resources for future resiliency and historical information. If you want to contribute to the website please talk to Katy after the meeting.

5.e. Hazardous Mitigation Plans: Bill Ernat

Bill provided a written report plus reminded everyone to make sure that their master plans and parks & recreation plans cross reference their county hazardous mitigation plans.

5.f. Iron-Belle Trail Facilitation: Bill Ernat

Bill met with State staff and some local groups to begin the process; funding has been secured for 2016. Bill provided a written status report.

5.g. Reaching for Opportunity Summit: Jane Fitzpatrick

Josh Ode (SVSU), Ed Oberski (Michigan Works) and Jane Fitzpatrick had a conference call with Brandy Johnson, Executive Director of the Michigan College Access Network and John Austin, President of the Michigan State Board of Education to discuss having a summit in PR-5. A steering committee has been formed and held their first meeting on June 30th to discuss the feasibility/desire to hold a regional summit. The consensus was to have a summit and a second meeting is being scheduled sometime in the next two weeks to begin to plan for the summit to be held sometime in October or November.

5.h. PR-5 Updates: Jane Fitzpatrick

Centers of Excellence: status of 4 focus areas

1. Agriculture/Hops

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan has applied for a USDA-Rural grant for a feasibility study. The announcement of funding from USDA is expected shortly.

2. Plastics Process and Product

CMU engineering students have been working at Vantage Plastics in Standish. The Dean of the CMU Engineering Department is interested in working on this focus area. Jane met with a representative from Dow Chemical who indicated that there are some people there that would be interested in working on this initiative. Roger Coles has offered to assist Scott Govitz in facilitating pulling a group together to move forward with this focus area.

3. Community Health:

Jane Fitzpatrick met with Dr. George Kikano two days prior to this meeting. Dr. Kikano is interested in working on this focus area and has offered to host a region wide summit to focus on all four of the centers of excellence.

4. International Students:

Dr. Kikano is looking at this focus area as a possible fit within the community health focus area.

Quantifying Talent (PR-5 Priority Project for 2016):

A steering committee consisting of representatives from SVSU, economic development corporations, RESDs, adult education and workforce development along with a representative from the Michigan DMTB and EMCOG has been established. Their first meeting with the SVSU project team is coming up on July 12th. The purpose of the meeting is the review the proposed study analysis outline and make sure we are on track with the intent of the PR-5 proposal.

6. USDA Rural Development Programs Presentation and Discussion: Wanda Dziwura, Area Specialist

Wanda gave a presentation of USDA programs with a focus on the most commonly used and always available (i.e., no application deadlines or sunset) programs for rural communities and non-profits. (Note: a powerpoint presentation was provided to attendees after the meeting). Her discussion focused on single family housing loan and grant programs; business programs, community facilities loans and grants (eligible communities must have a population of 20,000 or less); and the water and waste disposal loan and grant program. She provided a packet of materials for the attendees which contained brochures for each program along with eligibility qualifications. Her final word of advice was that the first step should be to call the office and talk to a specialist

7. Other: Parking Lot Items

(Discussion items requested by RED Team members and/or guests during the meeting)

No additional items were added for group discussion.

8. Updates from RED Team Members and Guests

Gary Kellan, Oscoda-Wurtsmith Airport Authority

Gary is seeking funding for resurfacing the runway. It was last resurfaced in 2001 and is approaching the end of its life expectancy.

Gary Stefanko, Roscommon County Commission

The Village of Roscommon Tour of Empty Buildings was held last weekend with some serious lookers. The Family Fishing event was the same weekend as the DNR Free Fishing event. All three lakes and all three Chambers of Commerce participated. There is an Economic/Community Outlook event scheduled for September 30th at the Houghton Lake Community Center. The focus will be on trails.

Zygy Dworzecki, Tuscola County Planning Commission

The Village of Akron received a MDEQ Stormwater, Asset Management and Wastewater (SAW) grant for checking their sewer system.

Vicky Sherry, Tuscola County EDC

The Thumb Quilt Trail has grown to 40-50 barns. A distillery, restaurant and dance hall is going to be opening in the Village of Caro.

Patty O'Donnel, MDOT North Region

MDOT is in the process of reaffirming the State long range plan from 2035 -2040. They've held public meetings and are establishing a vision, goals and objectives. The key strategy is to focus improvements on corridors of significance such as I-75 for national significance and US 127 and US 23 for statewide significance. MDOT also has a freight primer planning guide noting that for the rural areas the main means of moving freight is by trucking it. We must look at the growing need for freight services and balance this with traffic and complete streets planning. Trucking is a very big contributor to our economic activity. Regarding federal funding the FAST Act creates stable funding for five years: a 5% increase for 2016 and then a 2% annual increase for the next four years. Regarding state funding: January 2017, collect \$600M (\$400M from the increase in the fuel tax and \$200M is estimate from increases in the vehicle registration fees. In 2019 the state legislature is supposed to generate General fund transfers to make up an additional \$600M. This is not automatic and it will be up to the legislature to make these transfers.

Katy Hintzen, Michigan SEA Grant

The MSU Extension office in Bay County is having an open house from 2-4 pm on July 12th. The Saginaw Bay Youth Fishing Camp is on July 18th. On August 9th at 3 pm Katy will be presenting a project with kids and their rain barrels projects.

Kathy Methner, Middle Michigan Development Corporation and MichiganWorks

The MMDC and the Clare Area Chamber of Commerce received a \$54,000 grant from USDA to hire a resource retention network coordinator. The plan is that this program will be sustainable through the member companies supporting it. The Harrison city market is near completion and should be done by mid to late August. A market master and kitchen manager have been hired; entrepreneurs and farmers are being recruited for the market. Harrison is celebrating its 125th anniversary in August. City of Clare: five façade improvement projects are being done.

Mandi Chasey, Ogemaw County Economic Development Corporation and MichiganWorks

Starting up the Double Up Food Bucks program. You must accept the Bridge Card and have a POS (point of sale) system in order to participate. This will run August through December.

Brian Smith, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe

The Tribe received notice that they will receive a USDA Grant for an Agricultural Hops Strategy. Brian and others will be meeting with USDA Rural next week.

Christine Greve, SBDC at Delta College

They just received their 2015 annual reports. Christine brought the 3-D display for EMCOG.

Blinda Baker, City of East Tawas

Changes are going on: the green building is now a jewelry store; the Heritage Tour ribbon cutting is at noon on July 14th, State Senator Stamas (36th District) will be attending. The new library will be opening next month (August).

Pat Killingbeck, Carrolton Township

High interest in transportation issues relating to the dredging of the Saginaw River. Businesses need the increased depth in order to move forward with expansions.

9. Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the RED Team the meeting was declared adjourned at 1:45 pm.

NEXT MEETING: September 9, 2016 at 11:45 a.m. Middle Michigan Development Corp., Mt Pleasant

2016 **RED TEAM** MEETING SCHEDULE

MONTH	TIME	LOCATION
January 22, 2016	11:45 am	Buena Vista Charter Twp.
March 4, 2016	11:45 am	Houghton Lake Public Library
May 6, 2016	11:45 am	Riverwalk Place, Gladwin
July 8, 2016	11:45 am	Iosco County RESA
September 9, 2016	11:45 am	MMDC in Mt Pleasant
November 4, 2016	11:45 am	Tuscola County EDC in Caro

RED Team meetings begin at 11:45 a.m. following 10:00 a.m. Full Council meetings. Lunch will be available at the meeting site upon adjournment of the Council meeting at approximately 11:30 a.m. for those who wish to participate prior to the start of the RED Team meeting. The lunch cost is \$10.00 per person unless otherwise specified for a particular meeting.

NOTE: Members of the public are always welcome at any EMCOG RED Team meeting.

Meeting Guidelines

- * Participate in good faith, and in an effort to promote collective learning and good communication
- * Be honest, open-minded, and respectful when offering and listening to differing points of view. Disagree judiciously and respectfully.
- * Respect time commitments in the agenda, maintain focus on the issues and objectives at hand.
- * Be mindful of comment length and the importance of encouraging participation from everyone in the group. Agree briefly.
- * Be respectful regarding use of smart phones and other technologies.